**Changing Abolitionism**

**Section 1**

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| 00:00:01 | Let's read the lesson question. |
| 00:00:03 | How did the abolitionist movement change after the Fugitive Slave Act? You just learned this new law, the Fugitive Slave Act, was passed as part of the Compromise in 1850. In this lesson, we'll look more closely at the act and it's different features. We'll explored its impact on the abolitionist movement, and the impact on the Underground Railroad, the system for |
| 00:00:25 | helping enslaved African Americans escape to freedom. Let's begin by taking a closer look at the features of the Fugitive Slave Act. |

**Section 2**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act as part of |
| 00:00:03 | the compromise of 1850. A fugitive is someone who is on the run from the law. The act outraged many northerners because it forced citizens of free states to support southern slavery in these ways. African Americans could not testify in court. Free African Americans who were kidnapped by slave hunters could not defend their freedom in court. |
| 00:00:25 | Only the slave hunters could testify. Also, African Americans did not receive a jury trial. Slave hunters would make their case to the judge alone. And it was also illegal for anyone to help the fugitives in any way. Northerners were required to seize any African American that the slave hunter said was a slave. Let's take a look at the effects of the |
| 00:00:46 | Fugitive Slave Act. The Fugitive Slave Act had several effects, It made catching runaways easier. Slave hunters did not have to prove that someone was a fugitive. All they had to do was make a sworn statement that an African American was a runaway from slavery. Law enforcement officials were paid for helping to capture |
| 00:01:06 | supposed runaways, and could be fined up to $1,000 for failing to capture runaways. African Americans who were captured as runaways had no way to defend themselves. They could not testify in court to prove they were free or explain why they had run away. African Americans who were known to be free in their town could be reduced to slavery if one slave hunter or slave |
| 00:01:31 | holder testified that they were enslaved. Many free African Americans were kidnapped and sent to slavery in the South. The act outraged northerners in free states, states that had passed personal liberty laws outlawing slavery. Those laws were overturned by the Fugitive Slave Act. Not only were free black northerners in danger of being forced into slavery, white northerners were forced to |
| 00:01:58 | support slavery. Citizens could be fined or imprisoned if they interfered with the fugitive's capture. For example, testifying that someone was a free black citizen in court could be punishable by law. They could also be punished for helping an enslaved person escape from slavery. They could also be punished if they housed a fugitive. |
| 00:02:20 | The image shows an example of a publication that expressed and spread outrage among people in the North over the law. |

**Section 4**

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| 00:00:01 | After violating the laws banning slavery, the Fugitive |
| 00:00:04 | Slave Act outraged many white Northerners, and led to a growth in the abolition movement. Average Northerners, people who had not been abolitionists in the past, became involved in the anti-slavery movement. Many Northern states passed new personal liberty laws. These laws ensured trial by jury for African Americans, and imposed serious punishment on those who wrongly claimed an African American was a fugitive. |
| 00:00:29 | The Underground Railroad, a network of safe houses and supporters that helped enslaved people escaped to freedom, expanded it's operations. You'll learn more about this later. But not only white Northerners acted against the Fugitive Slave Act. The Fugitive Slave Act led some free African Americans to leave the United States for Canada. |
| 00:00:51 | But among those who would stay, there was an increased involvement in the abolitionist movement. Like their white neighbors, free African Americans helped shelter escaped enslaved people in violation of the law. They organized, spread the warning about the illegal capture, as in the announcement pictured on the right, and raised awareness about the law. |
| 00:01:10 | The anti Fugitive Slave Act sentiments were summed up in the life of one man named Anthony Burns. The capture of Anthony Burns showed Northern hostility toward the Fugitive Slave Act. Anthony Burns was born into slavery in Virginia in 1834. He escaped to Boston in February and March of 1854. Soon after, he wrote a letter to his brother in Virginia. Burns's slaveholder intercepted the letter and |
| 00:01:37 | used it to locate and capture Burns. News of Burns's capture spread, and a mob of white and African American citizens tried, and nearly succeeded, in freeing Burns from the jail in which he was held. They failed, of course, and Burns was sent back to Virginia under heavy guard, designed to prevent him from being free. Burns was gone, but not forgotten. |
| 00:02:01 | A Boston church raised money to purchase Burns less than a year after his capture. He lived the rest of life as a free man. |

**Section 6**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Let's look at the lesson question again. |
| 00:00:03 | How did the Abolitionist Movement change after the Fugitive Slave Act? You just learned about the impact of the Fugitive Slave Act. Now, let's look at the involvement in the Abolitionist Movement. Who started to get involved? |

**Section 7**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: The Fugitive Slave Act infuriated abolitionists. |
| 00:00:04 | A leading example was William Lloyd Garrison. He'd been at the forefront of the abolitionist movement for over 20 years when the act was passed. After the passage of the act, Garrison became even more outspoken. Garrison used his abolitionist newspaper called, The, Liberator, to denounce or reject Fugitive Slave Act. In addition to Garrison, there were numerous other |
| 00:00:28 | abolitionists who fought against the Fugitive Slave Act. Frederick Douglass was an African American who escaped slavery. He saw the Fugitive Slave Act as a sign of how determined pro-slavery forces were in the United States. He predicted that only war could end slavery under such conditions. |
| 00:00:48 | Now, let's read what Frederick Douglass had to say in June 1860, less than a year before the start of the Civil War. "I have little hope of the freedom of the slave by peaceful means. The only penetrable point of a tyrant is the fear of death." |

**Section 9**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: The views of the abolitionists became |
| 00:00:03 | increasingly radical. In July 1854, the non-violent William Lloyd Garrison publicly burned a copy of the US Constitution. And here's what Garrison had to say. "So perish all compromises with tyranny." Others, such as Reverend Luther Lee of Syracuse, New York, openly promised to defy the law and resist with force any attempt to enforce it. |
| 00:00:28 | Here's what Lee wrote in 1855. "I would never obey it. They could lock me up in the penitentiary on the hill. But if they had did such a foolish thing as that, I have friends enough on Onondaga County to level it to the ground before the next morning." |

**Section 11**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: In addition to Garrison, Douglass, and |
| 00:00:03 | Reverend Lee, John Brown was an abolitionist whose support for the use of violence to fight and end slavery became a major point of conflict between the North and the South away in the late 1850s. John Brown was active in an anti-slavery group in Massachusetts. He also took part in the violence that broke out in "Bleeding Kansas" when pro and anti-slavery settlers fought |
| 00:00:26 | to gain control of the territory. In 1856, he took part in the brutal murder of pro-slavery settlers at Pottawatomie Creek in Kansas. He was never arrested or charged in this attack. In 1859, he lead a raid in Harpers Ferry at a federal arsenal, this is a place where weapons are kept, hoping to spark an uprising of enslaved people. Let's take a closer look at John Brown's raid that we |
| 00:00:52 | briefly talked about in the last slide. In 1859, Brown prepared a small group of supporters for a raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry. His goal was use the guns there to start an armed uprising of enslaved African Americans. Many Southerner slave holders had a deep fear of such a thing happening. Brown's group attacked the arsenal, but the hope for |
| 00:01:15 | uprising did not occur. Instead, Brown spent two days fighting local militia until he was captured by US Marines led by Colonel Robert E. Lee. Brown was tried for his crimes, convicted, and hanged. Many in the North saw Brown as a hero. |

**Section 13**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Now let's read the question one more time. |
| 00:00:04 | "How did the Abolitionist Movement change after the Fugitive Slave Act?" You've just learned how the passage of this law increased support for abolition. In addition, the Movement grew more violent. Now let's learn about another form of protest against the Fugitive Slave Act-- the Underground Railroad. What was it? |
| 00:00:23 | And who used it? |

**Section 14**

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| 00:00:01 | The Underground Railroad was not an actual railroad. |
| 00:00:04 | It was a network of secret routes, safe houses, and people-- black and white-- who helped enslave people escape to the North or Canada. The term Underground Railroad was first used in the 1830s. As the railroad expanded, so did the use of the term. There were some common routes from South to North called lines. |
| 00:00:25 | There were people who helped fugitives escape were called conductors. These conductors were very effective at moving thousands of slaves to freedom. It is estimated that between 40,000 and 100,000 people escaped to the North using the underground railroad. The Underground Railroad reached its peak activity after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act. |
| 00:00:47 | Many routes headed north, while he went south to Florida. One conductor who knew the routes extremely well was Harriet Tubman. Harriet Tubman is the most famous member of the Underground Railroad. She was born into slavery herself. Tubman escaped to Philadelphia in 1849. |
| 00:01:06 | She went back into the South in 1850 to help her sister and two children escape slavery. Tubman made 19 trips back to the South, to lead about 300 enslaved people to freedom, risking her own freedom every time. Rewards for her capture eventually totaled about $40,000. Tubman was never captured, and helped the Union army during |
| 00:01:30 | the Civil War. The goal of the Underground Railroad and conductors like Tubman were to get the fugitives to a free state or Canada. To do this, the fugitives followed several routes. The map you see here shows some of the established routes. Fugitives got support and shelter from abolitionists, |
| 00:01:50 | free African Americans, and some religious groups that provided food and shelter for the fugitives along the way. As you can see in this map, the final destination for thousands of slaves was the country of Canada. Many fugitive enslaved people went to Canada beginning in the 1830s. Canadian law said that any enslaved people would automatically be set free once they entered Canada. |
| 00:02:15 | After the Fugitive Slave Act was passed, thousands more African Americans fled to Canada every year. As you see in the, graph about a thousand people entered Canada every year until 1850. In the first year after the Fugitive Slave Act, about 5,000 people moved to Canada. This didn't mean that more people escaped from slavery in that year. |
| 00:02:36 | Instead, many fugitives living in the North moved to escape the risk of capture. |

**Section 16**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: As the Abolitionist Movement grew in the 1850s, so |
| 00:00:04 | did the underground railway. More people willing to help enslaved people escape to freedom. Some fugitives had dramatic rescue stories. Shadrach Minkins escaped from slavery in Virginia. He settled in Boston but was captured while he was working as a waiter. Abolitionist lawyers represented Minkins in court. |
| 00:00:23 | But the Supreme Judicial Court in Massachusetts would not hear the case. An angry mob of abolitionists overcame armed guards to force their way into the courtroom. They got MInkins away from the court officers and hid him in an abolitionist's attic. Later, abolitionists helped him flee to Canada via the underground railroad. |